

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-07 ISO-00 /011 R

66619

DRAFTED BY IO/CMD:HAHOFFMAN

APPROVED BY IO/CMD:JWMCDONALD

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R 222021Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 057986

LIMDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT USUN 0957 ACTION SECSTATE
21 MARCH 74. QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 957

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, APER, UN

SUBJ: UN PERSONNEL: STATUS OF US CANDIDATE FOR
UNIDO

REF: USUN 950

1. AT LUCH TODAY I RAISED BURNS' APPOINTMENT WITH
SECRETARY GENERAL IN ORDER TO FOLLOW-UP ON MARCH 19 CON-
VERSATION WITH USYG DAVIDSON REPORTED REFTEL. I SAID TO
SYG THAT, SPEAKING AS LONG-TIME FRIEND, I WOULD CAUTION
HIM NOT TO UNDERESTIMATE DEGREE OF U.S. INTEREST IN UNIDO
APPOINTMENT FOR AMBASSADOR BURNS. THIS WAS AN APPOINTMENT
USG INSISTED ON. IF IT MEANT CONFRONTATION WITH ABDEL-
RAHMAN (A-R), THEN THIS WAS A GOOD ISSUE ON WHICH TO POSE
CONFRONTATION. I REMINDED HIM THAT HIS OWN AUTHORITY AND
PREROGATIVES AS SECRETARY GENERAL WERE INVOLVED.

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2. WALDHEIM SHOWED HIMSELF SENSITIVE TO ABOVE CONSIDERATIONS AND SAID HE COULD ASSURE US APPOINTMENT WOULD BE MADE. HE RECOGNIZED A-R WAS CHALLENGING HIS AUTHORITY AND REFERRED TO LATTER AS "INTRIQUER," COMMENTING THAT A-R WAS NOT A MAN OF ANY GREAT SUBSTANTIVE ABILITY. HE SAID HE WAS STILL GETTING THREATS OF RESIGNATION FROM A-R AND KNEW LATTER WAS TRYING TO LINE UP LDC SUPPORT FOR HIS CHALLENGE RE RELATIONSHIP OF UNIDO TO UN HEAD-QUARTERS. HE SAID HE HAD ALSO ASCERTAINED THROUGH HIS OWN SOURCES THAT EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT HAD NO PARTICULAR INTEREST IN SUPPORTING A-R. SYG CONTINUED THAT HE STILL HOPED TO AVOID FULL-SCALE CONFRONTATION OVER APPOINTMENT BURNS AND HAD SCHEDULED MID-APRIL MEETING WITH A-R IN PARIS.

3. I STRESSED ONCE AGAIN TO WALDHEIM OUR INSISTENCE ON THIS APPOINTMENT AND HE REPEATED WE COULD COUNT ON IT.

4.COMMENT: IT SEEMS CLEAR WALDHEIM HAS HAD ENOUGH OF A-R AND IS WORKING TOWARDS NOT RENEWING A-R'S CONTRACT ON ITS EXPIRATION LATER THIS YEAR. I BELIEVE HE WILL PROCEED WITH BURNS' APPOINTMENT, BUT IS GOING TO TRY TO ACHIEVE THIS IN HIS OWN AUSTRIAN WAY. WE SHALL KEEP THE PRESSURE ON HIM.
BENNETT

UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE057986
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: HAHOFFMAN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740062-0773
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740321/aaaaatyq.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: USUN 950
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 MAR 2002 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <06 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UN PERSONNEL: STATUS OF US CANDIDATE FOR UNIDO
TAGS: AORG, APER, UN
To: VIENNA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005